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## A second species of the genus *Helibatus* Mulsant & Rey, 1859 (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae: Opatrina)

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### Abstract

The genus *Helibatus* consists of two species: *H. morio* Mulsant & Rey, 1859 and newly described *H. banaszkieviczae* **sp. nov.** The species differ from each other in the structure of the metaventral process. The genus is distributed in Southern Africa—a distribution map for the two known species is provided.

**Key words:** Tenebrionidae, Opatrina, *Helibatus*, entomology, taxonomy, *Helibatus banaszkieviczae* **sp. nov.**, South Africa

### Introduction

The genus *Helibatus* was erected by Mulsant & Rey in 1859 for a single species, *Helibatus morio* Mulsant & Rey, 1859 (by monotypy), described from the Cape of Good Hope.

*Helibatus* represents a monophyletic stizopoid group of the subtribe Opatrina (Iwan 2004), which was previously interpreted as a separate taxon —“Stizopides” by Lacordaire (1859) and tribe Stizopini by Koch (1953, 1963). The genus is distributed in southern Botswana and north-eastern South Africa, Fig. 16 (Iwan & Schimroszczyk 2009).

The genus is well characterized by the structure of the mid part of the mentum (triangular with a pointed spike), the setose mid part of the prosternum, and the distinctly projecting intercoxal process of the 1<sup>st</sup> abdominal ventrite in males.

### Material and methods

#### Depositories

MIZ Museum and Institute of Zoology, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland;

MNHN Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France;

TMNH Transvaal Museum of Natural History, Pretoria, Republic of South Africa;

Photographs were acquired with a Hitachi S-3400N (SEM, in low vacuum mode) and by using a Leica MZ16 (DFC 500, Leica Application Suite version 2.7.1294) in the Museum and Institute of Zoology Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Poland.

Measurements were taken using a filar micrometer, as follows: body length from anterior margin of labrum to elytral apex; body width across maximum elytral width; pronotal length, along the middle of pronotum.